IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Inventor

: Smathers et al.

Serial No. Filed

: 10/527,513

: March 10, 2005

Title

: PROCESS FOR MAKING DENSE

MIXED METAL Si₃N₄

Docket No.

: 020324 223P2

Customer No. : 33805

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir / Madam:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,

VA 22313-1450.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A. One copy of the foreign reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This information disclosure statement, filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made. Further, the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b)

XX

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

XX

2. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the Information Disclosure Statement is being filed because an item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

> Respectfully submitted, WEGMAN, HESSLER & VANDERBURG

Reg. No. 50,991

Suite 200 6055 Rockside Woods Boulevard Cleveland, Ohio 44131 (216) 642-3342

4/10/2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
Approved Lase through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reducing Act of 1994 to persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/527,513			
Filing Date	June 10, 2005			
First Named Inventor	Smathers et al.			
Art Unit				
Examiner Name				
Attornov Docket Number	020224 222D2			

				DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A A	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	04.40.4074	Mandaus	- I garact pp
	AA	^{US-} 3,555,597	01-19-1971	Meadows	
	AB	^{US-} 3,971,875	07-27-1976	Regalbuto	
	AC	^{US-} 5,162,272	11-10-1992	Peuckert et al.	
	AD	^{US-} 5,234,642	08-10-1993	Nishioka et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
•		US-			
		US-			

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS TO THE STATE OF THE STAT		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
	Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Co	Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
	AE	WO 99/03623	01-28-1999	Tosoh SMD, Inc.		
						L

Examiner			Date		
Signature			Considered	ĺ	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.